(ख) चालू वर्ष के दौरान जून, 1988 तक सार्वजनिक वितरण के लिये कुल उठान औसतन 16.18 लाख मीटरी टन प्रति मास बैठता है ।

(ग) और (घ) जी, हां । आंतरिक वसूली और आयात से बफर स्टाक की भरपाई की जा ही है । हाल ही में 20 लाख मीटरी टन गेहूं और 7 लाख मीटरी टन चावल का आयात करने का ठेका दिया गया है ।

Television Transmitter in Chitradur-ga, Karnataka

2303. SSHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: SHRI HARI SINGH; SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND' BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Chit, radurga' in Karnataka listed on num ber one in the 7th plan has not been linked with Television network even though the other have already been inaugurated;

(b) what are the reasons for not opening Television relay Centre at Chitradurga so far; and

(c) by when this Centre is likely to be brought on national network?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The VII Plan of Doordarshan, *inter alia,* includes establishment of a large number of TV transmitters in different parts of the country and these are being set up in a phased manner depending on the availability of equipment, other infra-structural facility and annual allocation of resources. . No inter-se priority for completion of these projects could, therefore, have been fixed at the time the VTI Plan proposals for Doordarshan were initially approved.

(c> The proposed transmitter is expected to be commissioned into service during the current financial year (1988-89).

Monitoring of NREP AND RLE@P

2304. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the machinery established in the ministry to oversee the utilisation of NREP and RLEGP funds;

(b) whether any monitoring is being done in tnis regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Implementation of National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) is done through the State agencies. The monitoring of the two programmes is done by the State Govts, as well as the Union Government. The Union Government monitors the programmes through prescribed periodical reports, visits of the officers to the field through the system of area officers and convening occasional meetings with the State authorities. The Government of India have also introduced the country wide concurrent evaluation studies, with the help of eminent research institutions, with a view to monitoring the programmes more closely and taking measures for its qualitative improvement. Detailed evaluation studier

have also been conducted through the Programme Evaluation Organisat'on (PEO) of the Planning Commission, and the reputed institutions to assess] Whether the implementation of the programme is in accordance with the guidelines and whether the objectives are being achieved. The Government of India have created a fullfled-ged Monitoring Division in the Department of Rural Development to monitor the rural development prog rammes, including NREP and RLEGP,

Functioning of MECON

2305. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report which appeared in 'Yugantar" of the 5th July, 1988, regarding functioning of the Chairman, MECON, a public sector undertaking;

(b) whether it is a fact that MECON has become a sanctuary of retired hands; if so, what is the number of such persons who have been absorbed
. by the MECON so far;

(c) whether Government propose t_0 prune the top heavy administration of MECON for its survival and profitability; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, MECON has appointed four persons as advisers after their retirement for specific assign ments and for specific periods.

(c) There is no such proposel under consideration at present. MECON re mains a viable and profitable Cqm-pany.

(d) Does not arise.

Shortage of Steel Scrap

2306. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA;
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPUTULLA:

Will, the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious crisis in the ministeel plants in the country due to the acute shortage of steel scrap;

(b) if so, what percentage of steel scrap requirement is being met indigenously and what is the annual import of steel scrap to meet the demand;

(c) what is the comparative rise in the gap between the demand and supply year-wise till date;

(d) what is the comparative percentage of rise in the prices of the indigenous and imported state scrap during the last two years, and till date and its overall import on the mini-steel plants in the country; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA); (a) import of adequate quantity of Steel scrap are being arranged regularly to meet the shortfall in requirements of steel scrap. The position of scrap avai lability to the industry is under cons tant review.

(b) Indigenously generated steel scrap will be able to meet about 45 per cent of total scrap requirements during 1988-89 of the country. Annual import of steel scrap during 1988-89 is expected to be 3 Million Tonnes.

(c) import of steel scrap has been 1.5, 2.3 and 2.0 million tonnes during 1985-86, 1986-87-88 respectively. It has been broadly assessed that in this